IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 16 and 21 as indicated below. A redlined version of the amended paragraphs is attached to this response as Appendix A. Additionally, a clean version of all pending claims is also attached herewith as Appendix B.

1.   (amended) In a wireless communication system, an apparatus for scheduling forward link transmissions, comprising:

  memory element; and

  processing element configured to execute a set of instructions stored on the memory element, the set of instructions for:

    receiving a full channel quality value and a plurality of incremental channel quality values from a remote station, wherein the plurality of incremental channel quality values are received sequentially;

    selectively updating a register with a channel quality estimate, wherein the channel quality estimate is based upon the full channel quality value and the plurality of incremental channel quality values; and

    scheduling forward link transmissions in accordance with the updated register.

16.   (amended) A method for transmitting channel information from a remote station to a base station, comprising:

  generating a full channel quality value;

  generating an incremental channel quality value;

  multiplexing the incremental channel quality value with the full channel quality value to form channel information; and

  transmitting channel information from the remote station to the base station.

21.   (amended) Apparatus for transmitting channel information from a remote station to a base station, comprising:

  means for generating a full channel quality value;

  means for generating an incremental channel quality value;

2

means for multiplexing the incremental channel quality value with the full channel quality value to form channel information; and

means for transmitting channel information from the remote station to the base station.

Please add the following claims:

23. (NEW) A method for interpreting channel information over a predetermined duration, wherein the channel information includes a full channel quality indicator value and a plurality of incremental channel quality values, the method comprising:

if the full channel quality indicator is a threshold value and if the plurality of incremental channel quality values are equal-valued over the predetermined duration, then ignoring the plurality of incremental channel quality values.

24. (NEW) The method of Claim 23, wherein the threshold value is a maximum value of a quantization scheme.

25. (NEW) The method of Claim 24, wherein the plurality of incremental channel quality values are all "up" bits.

26. (NEW) The method of Claim 23, wherein the threshold value is a minimum value of a quantization scheme.

27. (NEW) The method of Claim 26, wherein the plurality of incremental quality values are all "down" bits.

3